

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services – Roads and Buildings Department – Allegations of irregularities in purchase of scientific instruments and Quality Control equipments in R&B Division, Vizianagaram against Sri C.V. Krishna Rao, Deputy Executive Engineer (R&B) Retired – Enquiry Conducted – Punishment awarded – Orders Issued.

TRANSPORT, ROADS & BUILDINGS (Vig.I.1) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No. 1040

Dated:11-11-2010.

Read the following:-

- 1) G.O.Rt.No.519, TR&B (Vig.I.1) Deptt., Dt.02.07.2004.
- 2) G.O.Rt.No.1020, TR&B (Vig.I.1) Deptt., Dt.20.11.2004.
- 3) G.O.Rt.No.1144, TR&B (Vig.I.1) Deptt., Dt.09.11.2005.
- 4) From the Member, Commissionerate of Enquiries, Letter No.532/COI-SSN/A1/2005, Dt. 31.07.2007.
- 5) Govt. Memo.No.10053/Vig.I.1/2002-8, TR&B (Vig.I.1) Deptt., Dt.21.11.2007.
- 6) From Sri C.V. Krishna Rao, Deputy Executive Engineer (R&B) (Retd.) representation Dated. 12.12.2007 and 12.01.2008.
- 7) Govt. Memo.No.10053/Vig.I.1/2002-13, TR&B (Vig.I.1) Deptt., Dt. 04.06.2008.
- 8) From Sri C.V. Krishna Rao, Deputy Executive Engineer (R&B) (Retd.) representation Dt. 05.07.2008.
- 9) Govt. Memo.No.10053/Vig.I.1/2002-17, TR&B (Vig.I.1) Deptt., Dt.13.04.2009.
- 10) From the Engineer-in-Chief (R&B) Administration & NH, Hyderabad Lr.No.3545/VC(1)/2002, Dt.01.02.2010.
- 11) The Principal Secretary, A.P.P.S.C., Hyderabad Lr. No. 1378/RT-I/3/2010, Dt. 21.10.2010.

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O R D E R:-

In the G.Os 1st to 3rd read above, orders were issued appointing an Inquiring Authority to conduct detailed enquiry against Sri C.V. Krishna Rao, Deputy Executive Engineer (R&B) Retired on the irregularities in purchase of scientific instruments and Quality Control equipment in R&B Division, Vizianagaram District.

2. In his letter 4th read above, the Inquiry Officer submitted his report holding that the charge against Sri C.V. Krishna Rao, Deputy Executive Engineer (R&B) Retired as proved. In the reference 5th read above, a copy of Enquiry Officer's Report was communicated to the charged officer and he has submitted his written representation in the reference 6th read above which is not convincing.

3. After examining the matter, a provisional decision was taken to inflict a punishment of 1% cut in pension for a period of two (02) years besides recovery of an amount of Rs.1,06,843/- towards loss caused to Government (1/3rd of Rs.3,20,529/- total loss) on Sri C.V. Krishna Rao, Deputy Executive Engineer (R&B) Retired under A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980. Accordingly, show cause notice was issued in the reference 7th read above, for which he has submitted representation, while narrating the facts of the case wherein, he has stated that findings of the Enquiry Officer in this regard that the loss occurred was to a tune of Rs.88,634/- is without any basis and even though the same happened to be loss also, he still not responsible for the said loss.

P.T.O.

4. The Engineer-in-Chief (R&B) Administration has been consulted in the matter, has stated that the purchase of Scientific Instruments and Quality Control Equipments in R&B Division, Vizianagaram during the year 2001-02 and the irregularities were proved beyond any doubt by the Inquiry Agencies and the Commissioner of Inquiry after thorough inquiry and perusal of the material placed before it concluded that the charges framed against all the three accused officers was proved. After perusal of documentary evidences by the Commissioner of Inquiry that the excess expenditure arrived was Rs.88,634/-. However as per the analysis of the rates by the Vigilance & Enforcement Department the excess payment reported was Rs.3,20,529/- and ordered for the recovery of the entire amount from all the three charged officers. He has stated that the rates of items purchased during 2001-2002 compared with the rates of the similar items approved by means of tenders or by the approval of high power purchase committee in the same or subsequent years. The Executive Engineer (R&B), Vizianagaram, had approved a sub estimate for Rs.7,80,000/- during the year 2007-08 on 02.07.2007 for purchase of similar equipment and a tender notice was released vide C.T. Notice No. 06/2007-08 under item no.1. On open tenders M/s Spectrum Instruments, Visakhapatnam (the firm on which supply order were placed earlier by the then Executive Engineer during the year 2001-02) which was one among the three participants quoted 13.49% less than the estimated rates and was the lowest concluded against vide DR. no. 93.2007-08 with the Executive Engineer, Vizianagaram. The other participants were (1) M/s Lawrence and Mayo, Visakhapatnam at 12% excess and (2) M/s Nikky Engineering, Hyderabad at 5.51% less. Thus the rates quoted by M/s Spectrum Instruments, Visakhapatnam during the year 2001-02 are compared with the rates quoted by the same agency during 2007-08 through open tenders. Though there is little difference in specification comparable items (7 items) are considered from the rates quoted by M/s Spectrum Instruments, Visakhapatnam during 2007-08 and the rates for remaining (4 items) are adopted as compared by the Vigilance & Enforcement Department. In view of the above, a comparative statement prepared comparing the rates approved by the Executive Engineer (R&B), Vizianagaram during 2001-2002 versus rates obtained by the Vigilance & Enforcement Department and rates quoted by M/s Spectrum Instruments, Visakhapatnam during 2007-2008 which clearly shows that even after a lapse of six financial years, the rates quoted by the same firm M/s Spectrum Instruments, Visakhapatnam on tender basis are very much less than the rates quoted in the year 2001-2002. Thus, it is proved that the then Executive Engineer (R&B), Vizianagaram, during 2001-2002 had placed purchase orders in favour of M/s Spectrum Instruments, Visakhapatnam during the years 2001-2002 with exorbitant rates for purchase of Scientific Instruments and Quality Control Equipment in R&B Division, Vizianagaram. He has stated that the material evidence available and in as much as rates quoted during 2007-2008 are much less than the rates approved by the then Executive Engineer (R&B) Vizianagaram, and recovery proposed by the Vigilance & Enforcement Department for an amount of Rs.3,20,529/- from the Charged Officers is quite correct and reasonable.

5. Government, after careful examination of the matter, decided to inflict a punishment of 1% cut in pension for a period of two (02) years besides recovery of an amount of Rs.1,06,843/- towards loss caused to Government (1/3rd of Rs.3,20,529/- total loss) on Sri C.V. Krishna Rao, Deputy Executive Engineer (R&B) Retired.

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6. The A.P. Public Service Commission, who was consulted on the proposed punishment, have agreed and communicated their concurrence vide reference 11th read above, for imposing penalty of 1% cut in pension for a period of two (02) years besides recovery of an amount of Rs.1,06,843/- towards loss caused to Government (1/3rd of Rs.3,20,529/- total loss) on Sri C.V. Krishna Rao, Deputy Executive Engineer (R&B) Retired.

7. Government after careful examination of the matter, have decided to impose a punishment of 1% cut in pension for a period of two (02) years besides recovery of an amount of Rs.1,06,843/- towards loss caused to Government (1/3rd of Rs.3,20,529/- total loss) on Sri C.V. Krishna Rao, Deputy Executive Engineer (R&B) Retired.

8. Accordingly, Government hereby impose the punishment of 1% cut in pension for a period of two (02) years besides recovery of an amount of Rs.1,06,843/- towards loss caused to Government (1/3rd of Rs.3,20,529/- total loss) on Sri C.V. Krishna Rao, Deputy Executive Engineer (R&B) Retired.

9. The Engineer-in-Chief (R&B) Administration shall take further action in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

D.LAKSHMI PARTHASARATHY
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To

Sri C.V. Krishna Rao, Deputy Executive Engineer (R&B) Retired.
through the Engineer-in-Chief (R&B) Admn., Hyderabad.

Copy to:

The Engineer-in-Chief (R&B) Administration, Andhra Pradesh,
Hyderabad.

The General Administration (V&E) Department.

The Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Vigilance Commission, Hyderabad.

The Accountant General., A.P., Hyderabad.

The Deputy Accountant General (Pensions), O/o the Accountant
General, A.P., Hyderabad.

SF/SC.

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER